

## VASCULAR HOLE CLOSURE

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for closing a punctured blood vessel is described. The apparatus includes a suturing instrument adapted to apply at least one suture to at least a portion of a blood vessel in order to close a puncture wound therein. In a preferred embodiment, the suture is secured by crimping a sleeve member over the free ends of the suture with a crimping instrument.

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